

# THE AMERICAN HOME

## W. A. RADFORD

### EDITOR

Mr. William A. Radford will answer questions and give advice FREE OF COST on all subjects pertaining to the subject of building for the readers of this paper. On account of his wide experience as Editor, Author and Manufacturer, he is, without doubt, the highest authority on all these subjects. Address all inquiries to William A. Radford, No. 194 Fifth Ave., Chicago, Ill., and only enclose two-cent stamp for reply.

A medium-sized, square-built house 24x30 feet on the ground, is given in this plan. For economy in space and careful planning of the rooms to utilize the last inch to advantage this plan is exceptionally good.

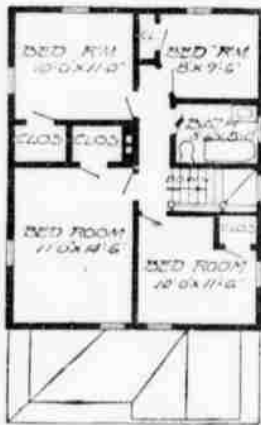
Twenty-four by thirty feet is not a very large plan to work into seven rooms, besides a good bathroom, plenty of closets and a good lower hall with an open stairway. Yet these rooms are as large as the average rooms in new houses, as houses go at the present time, and they are a good deal larger than some. Years ago rooms were larger, but that was when building materials and labor were very much cheaper than they are now. A builder can almost tell the age of a house by the size of the rooms. But there are other contributing causes; one is that we understand building better, and it is not necessary to build so large to get the same amount of comfort. As one lady expressed it, "I have learned to like my small kitchen. There are places for everything and I don't have to walk so much."

We have learned how to ventilate houses so that the air in small rooms in new houses is better than the air in large rooms in houses built 20 or 30 years ago. One reason for better ventilation is that houses now are set up well from the ground. It is a rare thing to see a new house less than three feet above grade and many of them are more than four feet up.

There was a time when cellars were confined to one corner of the house and they were often dark, damp, dingy affairs, but modern houses practically all have cellars the full size of the house, divided into compartments; one for the furnace, one for coal and one for the storage of fruit and vegetables. A furnace in the cellar is in itself a splendid ventilator; it keeps the cellar

supply fresh air, and they never know whether the order is properly filled or not. It is a great thing to have confidence in somebody or something. You can even enjoy eating sausage and mince pies if you have sufficient confidence in the maker.

The general appearance of this house is inclined to plainness, but it is relieved by a good veranda across the front, and that especially fits the general design. Put it is better to build plain and neat than to attach too many ornaments. There is something about a plain, neat house, that is well proportioned, that you never get tired



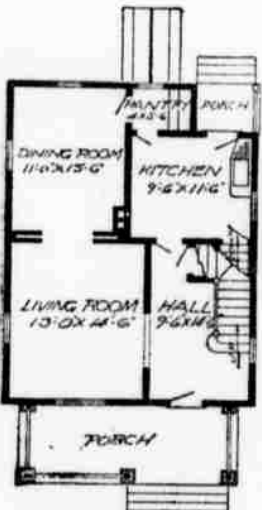
Second Floor Plan

of. Fancy balconies and odd-shaped roofs look well when they are new, but such things seldom wear well. For steady diet there is nothing so satisfactory as plain bread and butter, meat and potatoes. A little cake and a few candies may be all right by way of variety, but you can't live on such things. You build a good, solid, plain, square house that is light, airy, well ventilated and easily heated and you have something to be satisfied with as long as you live. But you let some architect coax you into building some fancy kothic arrangement or add a lot of gewgaws to an otherwise sensible



dry and warm, and the heat from it will force ventilation. Then the circulation of air in the pipes and through the registers carries the warm circulating medium to every corner in the building. Nine out of ten of the smaller houses probably are heated by means of a hot air furnace, and there is no better heating apparatus for a house of this size.

Another improvement in the modern house is in making larger chimneys and putting more flues in them. There is a constant current of air going up



First Floor Plan

through the chimney. If a flue is built right it works night and day, purifying the air in the house. It doesn't make any noise and we are liable to forget that it is there, but the work goes on whether we know it and appreciate the fact or not. Thousands of people owe their lives unknowingly to just such protection.

I know families who habitually sleep with the windows all down tight. You may pass their houses at any time of day or night and never see a window open. They trust in Providence to

plan, and you will have a job of alterations on your hands before many years.

A study of these rooms will convince any one that this plan offers a good deal of comfort for the amount of money the house will cost. Commencing with the front hall, there is a good-looking open stair that is lighted both from the top and from the bottom, a feature that you do not always meet with. Then there is a closet for coats and room behind this and under the main stair for an entrance to the cellar from the kitchen. It is a good hall, big enough without using up a whole lot of unnecessary space.

The living room and dining room are supposed to occupy the south or west side of the house, which is the sunny side, as these rooms are used the most. When it comes to the kitchen and pantry, with a back porch entrance, the arrangement is good and very handy. I do not advocate putting the kitchen on the north side of the house, because I think a kitchen should be as bright and cheerful as any other room, but on the other hand, a northern or eastern room is cooler than one facing the south or west, and you have too much heat in the kitchen anyway.

It is impossible to have everything just exactly right, but take this house on the whole the plan is a good one, and it is not very expensive. With careful management it may be built in most towns for about \$2,000, complete with piping for gas and electric wiring. An exceptionally good manager might get the furnace put in and still keep the price within \$2,000.

#### Says the Bucolic Sage.

"Thar's a whole passel of people livin' under the flag who fondly believe that wharsoever thar's law, w' men to execute it, thar can't be no liberty. Well, we've got to reckon w' that stripe of feller-citizen, even if we set up at night buildin' jails an' draw in' up the by-laws of new chaw-gangs."

## TARIFF INEQUALITY

THE POOR PAY MORE TAXES THAN THE RICH.

Duties Levied on Necessities of Life Are Responsible for This State of Affairs—Important Reason For Reduction.

The tariff not only protects the trusts but it makes the poor man pay more tariff taxes than the rich man does. Leaving out the fact that the trusts are protected by the tariff, for this everybody knows who has taken the trouble to investigate the matter, it is of still more importance to present the facts that show that the few are taxed for the benefit of the many. As a general proposition no one will deny that taxes should be assessed and paid according to income and the amount of property possessed by the citizen. The person with an income of \$100 a month or less should certainly pay less taxes than one with \$1,000 a month or more, and yet as far as tariff taxes on necessities are concerned the man with the small income pays as much and even more than the man with the larger income, because both poor and rich consume about the same quantity of these taxed necessities.

The poor man has to buy as much sugar as the rich man, and therefore the tariff tax on sugar is much heavier on his small income than on that of his rich neighbor. As large families are more usual with the poor than with the rich, the tariff is thus still heavier on those less able to pay it. The tariff tax on refined or granulated sugar being one and ninety-five hundredths of a cent a pound, equal to 64.32% on the value of imported sugar in the country where it was produced which in 1906 was 3 cents a pound, the cost of sugar is increased by the tariff to the American consumer nearly 2 cents a pound. As the average consumption of sugar per capita in the United States is estimated at 70 pounds, each average family of five persons uses 350 pounds on which the tariff tax is \$6.83 per family on this one article of necessity. If the family consists of more than five persons the tax is \$1.36 more for each extra person and is reduced the same amount for each person less than five in the family.

The tax to the poor man amounting \$6.84 a month is about one per cent of his wages, while the tax paid by the rich man on an income of \$600 a month is but one tenth of one per cent, and on the very rich the tax is so infinitesimal that it is difficult to compute the percentage. This one item of the tariff taxes paid is but a sample of the inequality of such indirect taxes and is the reason the democrats desire to reduce the tariff and in place of such reduction collect a tax upon incomes.

There is another important reason for the reduction and even the abolition of the tariff tax on such articles as are controlled by trusts, for with no tariff, or only enough to produce revenue, the trusts will be compelled to reduce the price they charge for their products, or foreign products would be imported and compete with the trusts and those corporations would lose that much trade if they did not compete with the foreign imports. Thus the price of trust products would fall and instead of paying five cents a pound for sugar it would sell for about three cents, as it does in England, and many other trust made articles would decrease in proportion to the reduction of the tariff tax.

Some of the tariff schedules are concocted to plunder the poor man more than the rich in even a more direct manner. For instance the tariff tax on fine quality long blankets is only about half what it is in a cheaper grade and the poor man needs as many blankets to keep warm as the rich man does, and even more for his house is not as well built or as warmly heated.

#### Asset Currency.

It is evident there will be a determined effort when congress meets to pass an "asset currency" bill. The American bankers' convention, which has just adjourned, adopted the proposed plan, although there were serious objections offered by some of the members. The object is to allow the national banks to issue more currency, without having to deposit United States bonds to secure the issue. The cry is more money. The bankers want a monopoly that can be increased or decreased at their pleasure, and, of course, for their profit. But as the amount of money per capita is constantly increasing by the increased output of gold and the currency issued by newly organized national banks, there would seem to be ample currency to meet all demands of legitimate business.

#### The Same Old Gang.

Many of those newspapers which favor the new theory advanced by Mr. Roosevelt as to absolute federal control of corporation affairs by congress and by commissions appointed by the president, are publishing the speech of one Danvin P. Kingsley of the New York Life Insurance company, delivered before the convention of Insurance Commissioners of the states at Richmond, Va., on September 17th. Kingsley is a son-in-law of that enterprising citizen John A. McCall, the former president of the New York Life, who fabricated so profusely to Governor Culberson of Texas, and ordered George W. Perkins to give up \$50,000 of money belonging to the policy holders of the New York Life to the Roosevelt campaign fund.

## BEST EVER WRITTEN

PRESCRIPTION WHICH ANYONE CAN EASILY MIX.

Said to Promptly Overcome Kidney and Bladder Afflictions—Shake Simple Ingredients Well in Bottle.

Mix the following by shaking well in a bottle, and take in teaspoonful doses after meals and at bedtime:

Fluid Extract Dandelion, one-half ounce; Compound Kargon, one ounce; Compound Syrup Sarsaparilla, three ounces. A prominent physician is the authority that these simple, harmless ingredients can be obtained at nominal cost from any druggist even in the smallest towns.

The mixture is said to cleanse and strengthen the clogged and inactive Kidneys, overcoming Backache, Bladder weakness and Urinary trouble of all kinds, if taken before the stage of Bright's disease.

Those who have tried this say it positively overcomes pain in the back, clears the urine of sediment and regulates urination, especially at night, curing even the worst forms of bladder weakness.

Every man or woman here who feels that the kidneys are not strong or acting in a healthy manner should mix this prescription at home and give it a trial, as it is said to do wonders for many persons.

The Scranton (Pa.) Times was first to print this remarkable prescription, in October, of 1906, since when all the leading newspapers of New York, Boston, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and other cities have made many announcements of it to their readers.

#### Grieg as a Schoolboy.

Grieg was not a pattern schoolboy. In a description of his days at school he wrote: "Knowing that by arriving late I would not be allowed to enter the class until the end of the first lesson, I used, on wet mornings, to stand under a dripping roof, until I was soaked to the skin. The master then sent me home to change my clothes, but the distance being long this was equivalent to giving me a dispensation! You may guess that I played this prank pretty often, but when at last I carried it so far as to come one day wet through, though it had hardly rained at all, they became suspicious and kept a lookout. One fine day I was caught, and made an intimate acquaintance with the birch!"

#### Liquor She Floated In.

On their arrival in New Zealand, according to London Tit-bits, a party of English people drank the health of the vessel which had brought them safely to their destination. One of the gentlemen who was asked to join in this ceremony replied: "No, I am a teetotaler; but I'll willingly drink success to the ship in the liquor she floats in." A friend disappeared and returned with a glass of water. After a complimentary apostrophe to the ship, the recipient tossed the water off at once, but immediately spluttered: "Ugh—ah—oh—this is—oh—what on earth is this?" "That?" said his friend. "Why, you've drunk success to our noble ship in the identical liquor she floats in."

#### Terms That Seem Strange.

There are many puzzling differences between Scottish and English law terms. For instance, bankruptcy is in Scotland "an act of sequestration," a solicitor is either a "writer" or a "law agent," the argument in a case is the "debate," and assizes is the jury, a wrongdoer is a "delinquent," an idiot—in Scottish law—is "a fatuous person," and a burglary is (with true Scottish caution), "housebreaking with an aggravation." Finally, an author is, in Scotland, not a person who writes, but the vendor or seller of real property, from whom the title to it is derived.

#### Mutilate Art Treasures.

Authorities who have in charge some of England's ancient treasures try to discourage the habit of carving initials on these relics. A fine of \$15 was recently imposed on a man who had chipped his name in letters six inches high on one of the stones in the "Druids' Circle" near Keswick. Close to the giant stone globe at Swanage a special slab is provided for the harmless reception of the names of all who are addicted to this self-advancement. On popular Alpine summits names are left on cards in emptied wine bottles.

#### Will Not Supply Pigs.

Bacon curers are usually among the most prosperous firms in Belfast, but they have had to warn the farmers throughout the north not to kill any more pigs until the strikes are settled, for it is impossible to handle the carcasses. Business has thus been diverted to other Irish bacon-curing centers, although the majority of farmers have simply resented their pigs and are making no attempt to supply the market. Danish bacon factories will thus profit.—London Standard.

#### But He Wasn't Hired.

Senator Frank B. Brandegee tells a story of a man who wanted to be a trolley car conductor. "This man looked hearty, polite and intelligent, and the manager of the car barns seemed to think well of him. After a number of questions the manager said: 'Well, what pay do you desire?' The applicant gave a loud laugh. Then he dug the manager in the ribs and said: 'Oh, never mind about the pay, boss. Just give me the job and I'll have a car of my own in a week or two.'"—Kansas City Star.



## NEEDS MUCH CARE

DRESSMAKING AT HOME BY NO MEANS A "SNAP."

Only Thorough Practice Will Give Proper Results—One Fault Particularly Common with the Beginner.

The proper cutting, fitting and finishing of a dress can be done only after thorough practice. Accuracy in the small details will do much to make the garment perfect; another matter which is often neglected is the careful handling of the parts, so that they are not stretched out of shape. Carelessness about this latter will cause the dress to fall into unsightly wrinkles at the seams.

The last-mentioned fault is particularly common among beginners, and when committed is very difficult, and in some cases nearly impossible, to remedy. Every piece of figured material must be cut out separately, and not on the double, even though the pieces be identical in shape, for this material seldom folds quite evenly. Velvet and all such pile materials should appear dark when held against the wearer, and checks and plaids match both lengthwise and widthwise in every piece. Stripes may either be cut on the straight and treated the same as plaids, or cut on the cross and the lines made to fit with each other.

It always pays to shrink cloth before making it up, for by this, later damage by shrinkage is prevented. Wring out an old sheet in water, leaving the sheet quite wet, however, and spread it out on a table; then lay the cloth, unfolded, on the wet sheet and roll up the cloth and the sheet at the same time. Let the sheet remain this way over night, then spread it out and press it smooth.

Cut out the pattern after it has been laid on the cloth, and mark the perforations out with chalk. With the help of correct patterns, some of the difficulties incidental to fitting may be avoided. However, very few figures follow the normal line exactly, and a certain amount of overfitting is by no means uncommon. Sometimes this is caused by the alteration of one part, thereby throwing another out of line. When this occurs the whole garment has to be refitted.

#### MODEL OF MANY USES.

Costume That May Be Made Available for Numerous Occasions.

The costume shown is a generally useful model that could be made up in soft broadcloth with handsome trimmings for calling or church, in soft challis or cashmere for house wear or



in handsome silks for evening, with a vest of handsome lace. The surprise effect of the blouse is always becoming and this season almost all blouses are made with a vest effect. Some of the extra blouses are almost garish in their many materials and fancy vests, trimmings of buttons, etc., but these waists should be bought only by the woman with a large wardrobe and a fat purse. To wear a waist of these bright plaids every day would be deadly, but if you can have many and wear the gay one once in a while all well and good.

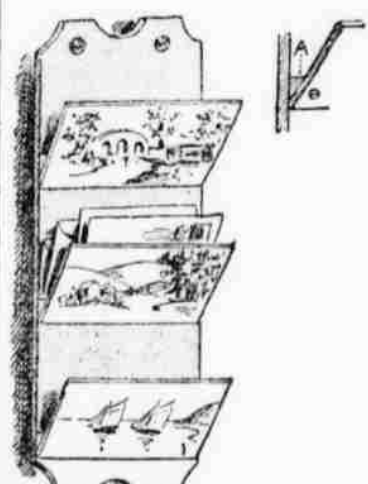
#### Seamless Sleeves.

A feature of some of the newest coats is the seamless sleeves, which made its first appearance upon separate blouses. While the fashion is very becoming to some figures it is decidedly unbecoming to others, and cannot be recommended where one has only one small outer wrap for general wear. The long sleeve is the invaluable rule for motor coats, although it has a rival in the nineties length, which stops just short of the wrist bone and is variously shaped according to the material and the general style of the garment of which it is so important a feature.

#### RACK FOR THE LETTERS.

Useful Article That Can Be Easily Made in Thin Wood.

A useful little rack for letters is shown in the accompanying sketch, and it is one that may be easily cut out and made in thin wood. It should be about 12 inches in length and 5 1/2 inches wide. Its chief feature is that the slanting pieces of wood that hold the letters are decorated in front with picture post cards glued lightly on to



them, so that they can easily be removed and changed if they should fade or become soiled. The little diagram at the right hand side shows how the slanting pieces of wood should be screwed on to the back. There is a triangular slip of wood at the base of each (A), and screws run through from the front and hold them at the proper angle. A glance at the sketch will make this clear. The woodwork should be stained green or oak color, and be left to get thoroughly dry before the post-cards are affixed.

#### CAN HAVE WIDE CHOICE.

Material for Dressy Costumes Are Many and Varied.

There is such a range of fashionable materials for the gown which is to do duty as a semi-dressy dinner frock, a calling and church costume, that one cannot go wrong in selecting any one of the beautiful weaves offered in the shops to-day. All the soft silks, crepes, lawns and the chiffon broadcloths come in a bewildering range of colors and shades and there are easily matched at the trimming counter in braids and handsome ornaments. The crepes de chine and lawns are also attractively employed in dainty house gowns made up on simple empire and princess lines and trimmed in the simplest way with fine lace, ribbon and hand embroideries. Hand embroideries, by the way, are highly prized in this season's fashions, and the girl who can elaborate her frocks with her own handwork is indeed fortunate, for the dressmaker made embroidered frock is quite out of the question with the average girl, so expensive are the prices asked for such creations. On the other hand, one can have the dress made by some reputable establishment and supply one's own handwork as the design of the costume demands or add such finishing touches after the gown has left the customer's hands.

#### Velvet Will Have Vogue.

Importers and modistes are of the unanimous opinion that velvet is to have a great vogue, and several tailored models have already arrived from abroad. The colorings are exquisite and reveal many new and lovely tones, says the Delineator for September.

Checked and striped velvets are shown made up into gowns intended for use at morning lectures and at luncheons. They are light of weight, supple in quality and show both close and open designs. The hair-line velvets have all the attractiveness of a corded weave but none of its severity. While it is quite true that velvets showing stripes and checks are no novelty, having been used last season, the beautiful color tones which the new ones possess promise to make them desirable. Where the hair lines are of contrasting color, such as black on sandstone, or white on the sapphire blue, they produce a shaded effect which is particularly pleasing.

#### To Make Fancy Guimpes.

In making the fancy guimpes so much worn by both adults and children, the material should first be tucked, or spaces left for the lace insertion. If any be desired, before cutting out.

The lace can then be basted on either edge—flat on the tucked material—and the fabric cut away from underneath.

Leave about a quarter of an inch on each side of the lace. Turn this back on the material and stitch on the edge of the lace.

Finish with feather stitching done with crochet or mercerized cotton, as preferred.

This makes a very pretty finish, and enables the garment to bear repeated launderings without the material fraying away from the lace, as it is apt to do in the case of most ready-made garments.